



# News Release

**For immediate release:** February 18, 2011

(11-024)

Contacts: [Mike Farrell](#), Medical Quality Assurance Commission  
[Gordon MacCracken](#), Communications Office

509-329-2186  
360-236-4072

## **Issaquah physician's medical license immediately suspended** *Doctor's active addiction makes him unsafe to practice medicine, charges say*

**OLYMPIA** — The Medical Quality Assurance Commission has immediately suspended the medical license of Issaquah physician William L. Lanzer (MD00022061). Lanzer's recent relapse into alcohol and substance abuse makes him unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety, charges say.

Lanzer cannot practice medicine in Washington until the charges are resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and to request a hearing.

The charges say Lanzer has had a long-term addiction to alcohol and controlled substances. He has been voluntarily monitored for substance abuse by the commission's approved program since 2005. Since then, the charges say, Lanzer relapsed by repeatedly returning to active abuse of alcohol and controlled substances. Lanzer was finally discharged from the monitoring program on November 22, 2010, because of another relapse, according to the charging documents.

Legal documents in this case are available by calling 360-236-4700 or online by clicking the link to "Provider Credential Search" on the [agency home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)).

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission protects public health and safety by assuring the competency and quality of physicians and physician assistants. The commission establishes and monitors qualifications for licensure, and consistently enforces practice standards and professional conduct through discipline and continuing education.

###

Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.